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THE CONVENTION.

A Good Representation, and Satisfactory Results.

Elder S. H. Bashor Carries the Convention into a flame of Enthusiasm on College Donations.

Duration, Three Days.

The Convention was called to order by Bro. E. L. Yoder, of Falls City, Neb., chairman of the Executive Committee, in the upper College Chapel, on Wednesday morning, Sept. 21st, at 9.

Bro. Bashor conducted the religious services.

Bro. Isaac Kilhefner made the address of welcome as follows:

Dear Brethren and Sisters, I acknowledge the honor conferred upon me in being permitted to make this address of welcome. When we receive into our midst a friend, we always feel to give him a hearty welcome into our homes, for we expect to be benefited by coming in contact with the good, pure and the true. So my dear Christian brethren we expect to be benefited by being thus brought together as we are this morning in convention assembled, believing you have all come here imbued with the spirit of Christ, and consequently are his children, therefore it is a pleasant duty to welcome you here this beautiful morning. Trusting we have met for the purpose of advancing the interest of Christ's church here upon earth, and to develop our educational interests, our missionary interests, and every interest that has for its object our happiness, and the welfare of our beloved Zion, we give you a most hearty welcome. If, however, any have come with selfish ends to accomplish, or any partisan measures to advocate, or anything that is not for the good of the general brotherhood, for such we have no welcome. In view, then, of our past history, seeing that we have been cast out, ostracized, persecuted, evil spoken of, and our name cast out before the world, as of the lowest, and why was all this? Was it because of evil doings that we were thus treated? No, verily not, for only the ignoramus could have believed that this earnest sincere body of Christians desire was for any thing but the glory of God and the good of the people. In view then, of all that we have passed through, and of all the glorious work that we have accomplished, we trust you are all prepared by the spirit of meekness to still do greater and better work for the Master, and in the spirit of meekness and brotherly love, are ready for the work of this convention. Therefore, in behalf of us all, I bid you a hearty welcome, and may your deliberations be so guided that God can also bid you welcome. And again I say, welcome, welcome, thrice welcome are you.

Bro. E. L. Yoder replied:

Bro. Chairman: You have heard the emphatic assurances from Bro. Kilhefner that this convention is welcome at Ashland. In behalf of the Executive Committee, upon which devolved the duty of locating the convention, and the convention itself, I am constrained, to return hearty thanks for this welcome reception. As far as the Executive Committee is concerned, we long since knew that the convention would be welcome here.

When the Committee had its session at Falls City last February, the Ashland church was the only church that responded of itself, for itself and by itself with a request for the location of the convention. And this request from Ashland came to us backed up with argument which showed that they were in dead earnest in wanting the convention. Now, the entertainment of the convention is quite a different thing, I take it, from entertaining the individuals which compose the convention. It is not a matter of individual hospitality or hospitality toward individuals on a large scale that will accrue to the credit of the Ashland church in this connection. They have a large balance in their favor of that kind of hospitality, and the surplus shows no signs of diminution. I have checked from it frequently, and the checks have always been honored at par. But this church was willing to entertain the *convention* and that signifies something. This convention has not developed yet and it is a matter of faith and confidence whether it will make the place that entertains it famous or only notorious, whether it will bring honor or dishonor.

If the Bethlehem inn-keeper would have known the character of the distinguished guest which he had opportunity to entertain, he would have turned every other guest out of his inn to make room for the infant Redeemer. But he did not know his opportunity to make himself illustrious.

Ashland does not know what the character of this convention will be to which it has consented to attach its name to be recorded in the annals of Dunkard church history. But the true and tried and devoted few who constitute the Brethren church at Ashland have faith in the eternal principles of the Brethren church, and confidence in the wisdom, piety and devotion to principle in those who will constitute this convention that they will conduct it in a manner to promote the cause of Christ, and reflect honor upon the place after which it will be named.

Bro. Bashor nominated Bro. H. R. Holsinger for temporary chairman and Bro. E. L. Yorder was elected temporary secretary.

A. J. Sterling, E. B. Shaver, Dr. A. Pearson, J. H. Swihart, Z. T. Livengood were appointed a committee on nominations.

E. Mason, J. M. Tombaugh and E. Hilderbrand were appointed a committee on rules.

S. H. Bashor, J. W. Beer and W. L. Spanogle were appointed a committee on credentials.

The committee on nominations reported permanent organization as follows: H. R. Holsinger, Chairman; S. H. Bashor Asst.; E. L. Yoder, Secretary; E. Mason Asst.

The committee on rules reported as follows:

Your committee recommend that "Robert's Rules of Order" shall be followed for the regulation of this convention; and for deportment of the members, we recommend the adoption of the Golden Rule given by the Master that "we should do unto others as we would they should do unto us."

That the speeches shall be confined to 10 minutes, and the time only increased by special consent of the convention.

That no person shall be permitted to speak more than twice on the same question.

E. Mason.
J. M. Tombaugh.
E. Hilderbrand.

A. Pearson said that there were grave and momentous questions to come before the convention, and thought the time allotted too short.

S. H. Bashor, opposed them.

A. L. Garber said he was in favor of the rules.

J. B. Wampler opposed the limited time because we ought not to "Quench the Spirit."

The report was accepted—

The committee on credentials reported churches represented as follows:

Fairview Church, O., J. M. Tombaugh; Miamisburg, O., Daniel Beachler; Farmersville, O., C. A. Coler, D. R. Wampler; Winchester, Ohio, Jacob Stover; Beaver Dam, Ind., Noah Heater; Homer, Medina Co., O., H. S. Jacobs; Little York and Lexington, O., E. Mason; Falls City, Neb., S. C. Stump; Holmesville, Beatrice and Dorchester, Neb., E. L. Yoder; West Independence, O., Martin Shively; Indian Creek, Ind., L. W. Ditch; Covington, O., H. G. Ullery; Zimmerman, O., P. J. Brown; Rossville, O., Isaac Ross; Fairview, Pa., Henry Wise; Bear Creek, O., A. Beeghly, P. J. Brown; Tiosa, Ind., By letter; New Troy, Mich., J. English; New Enterprise, Pa., Jacob Fury, S. L. Buck; East Conemaugh, Pa., D. F. Ramsey; Rosedale, Pa., Benj. Goughnour; Cowenshanock and Glade Run, Pa., J. B. Wampler; Johnstown, Pa., A. J. Sterling, Dan Crofford; Portage, Ind., David Augustine, Chauncey Carpenter, J. M. Rittgers; Fair Haven, Ohio, William Kiefer; Mt. Pleasant, Ind., E. L. Hilderbrand, J. Miller, Adison Michael; Edna Mills, Ind., J. B. Metzger, Wm. Cripe, David Hufford, Esther Metzger; McKees, Pa., W. L. Spanogle; Somerset, Pa., Sadie E. Trent; Stony Creek, Pa., A. J. Miller; Berlin, Pa., John H. Knepper and Sister J. H. Knepper; North Manchester, Ind., W. W. Summers; Stony Creek, Pa., A. J. Miller; Meyersdale, Pa., A. D. Gnagey; Warsaw, Ind, J. H. Palmer; Sidney, Ind., J. H. Palmer; Martinsburg, Pa., J. G. Snyder, J. W. Wengert; Pony Creek, Kans., J. H. Burnworth; Conemaugh, Pa., J. W. Smouse, Wm. Byers, Henry Funk; North Liberty, O., Jno. W. Myers; Philadelphia, Pa., J. Duke McFaden; Louisville, O., Josiah Keim; Mount Zion, O., A. A. Cober; Glenford, O., C. E. Deffenbaugh, A. A. Cober; Milford, Ind., Jas. A. Ridenour, Thos. Clayton, James Skelly; South Bend, Ind., H. R. Holsinger, D. C. Ullery; Waterloo, Iowa, S. H. Bashor, Sam'l Cain; Dayton, Ohio, Sam'l Kiehl; Brighton, Ind., letter; California, J. W. Beer; Carleton, Neb., A. P. Miller; North Star, O., A. Pearson, N. R. Gilbert; Lanark, Ills., Z. T. Livengood, W. H. Herrington; Aurelia, Iowa, E. L. DeVore; Ankneytown, O., L. Grubb, C. Swank, J. Leedy; Salem, Ind., B. L. Gordon; Mount Olive, Bethany, Round Hill, Providence, Va., E. B. Shaver; St. James and Mapleville, Md., Isaac D. Bowman; Flora, Ind., J. A. Ridenour; La Paz, Ind., letter; Maple Grove, Kans., letter; Nickerson, Kans., letter; Millersburg, Iowa, letter; Somerset Church, Neb., letter; Jones Mills, Pa., letter; Bates Co., Mo., letter; Dry Creek, Ohio, letter; Maple Park, Kans., letter.

There was a little discussion as to the prerogative or power of the committee on credentials. After the misunderstanding was cleared, business was resumed.

Sister Perry, chairman of the committee of Women's work, handed in her report, suggesting that the committee be reconstructed by the convention.

Ashland, Ohio, Sept. 21, 1887.

To the members of this convention greeting.

The report which we have to make is both meagre and unsatisfactory.

Very soon after Bro. Yoder informed me that I had been appointed a member of this committee, I wrote to each of the other members, and to some of them I have written repeatedly. One sister answered that she was willing to do anything that she could, and expressed herself as being very anxious to see the work prosper. She had no plan to offer, or suggestions to make, but was willing to do anything that might be considered best.

Another only answered through the paper, saying that she thought there had been a mistake made in selecting her as she felt herself incapable of serving in that capacity.

Another wrote me who seemed to be grieved over treatment received at the hands of some of the brethren, and refused to serve for that reason.

From a fourth I did not hear until about three weeks since, when she wrote me saying that she expected to attend the convention and would be happy to do anything that might be considered best.

Although thus far success has not attended our efforts, yet we feel sure that the object for which we wish to labor is a worthy one, and we do not wish to relinquish it just because we have met with a few discouragements.

We would therefore ask of this convention to reconstruct this committee and appoint a committee from the sisters present, that they may hold a session at some time during this meeting, and have a report to present yet before this convention adjourns.

Fraternally,
MRS. W. C. PERRY.

By motion the chair was appointed to reconstruct the committee. The following committee was appointed:

Mrs. Bessie Perry, Miss M. M. Sterling, Mrs. A. L. Garber, Mrs. J. H. Knepper, Miss Sadie Trent, Mrs. A. J. Sterling, Mrs. Josiah Keim.

The following motion was carried:

"That E. Mason, W. L. Spanogle, and A. Pearson be appoined a committee on committees, whose duty it shall be to report the number and kind of committees necessary for the work of this convention."

The committee reported as follows:

Your committee report the following committees necessary:

Committee on Program, to consist of three; Committee on Literature, to consist of five; Committee on Education, to consist of seven; Committee on Mission work, to consist of five; Committee for the Regulation of Future Conventions, to consist of seven; Committee on Resolutions, to consist of five.

E. Mason.
W. L. Spanogle.
A. Pearson.

Report was adopted.

P. J. Brown moved that the work of nominating the persons to constitute these committees be referred back to the committee on committees. The motion brought out much discussion, but was eventually passed.

The committee nominated the following committee on Program: J. D. McFaden, J. W. Smouse and Josiah Keim. For the committee on Resolutions, Geo. De Bolt, J. M. Tombaugh, B. L. Gordon, W. C. Perry, J. G. Snyder.

E. L. Hilderbrand moved that this convention be a delegate convention.

J. H. Swihart was opposed to the motion because we are Congregational and that this will be the first step toward centralization of power.

A. L. Garber spoke against it, D. F. Ramsey and W. L. Spanogle made speeches in its favor.

S. H. Bashor said that mass conventions were a failure so far as their usefulness and practicability was concerned. The decisions of the Dayton convention were not noticed, although they were endorsed by all present. The convention decided to have a hymn book, yet every one went home and used what they like, and so it was with other matters.

J. C. Cassel said that the churches in the east did not expect it to be a delegate convention.

H. G. Ullery and J. M. Rittgers were in favor of the motion.

E. L. Yoder, on behalf of the executive committee, said that they did not know the extent of the power with which they were invested. So they considered

(*Continued on fifth page.*)